

Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CCO-00 CIAE-00 OTPE-00 FCC-01
INR-07 NSAE-00 OC-06 USIA-06 COME-00 BIB-01 L-03 PA-01
PRS-01 /046 W

-----172033Z 070172 /47

P 171740Z JAN 77

FM AMCONSUL QUEBEC

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 861

INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETEL, PINT, CA

SUBJECT: QUEBEC TO CARRY CABLE TELEVISION FIGHT TO SUPREME
COURT

REF: QUEBEC 17

1. QUEBEC COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER LOUIS O'NEILL ANNOUNCED
FRIDAY THAT QUEBEC WOULD CARRY ITS FIGHT FOR JURISDICTION
OVER CABLE TELEVISION TO THE SUPREME COURT OF CANADA.
HE DESCRIBED ACTION AS "ONE OF THE
STEPS TOWARD INDEPENDENCE". COMMENTING ON ADVERSE RULING BY
QUEBEC COURT OF APPEAL, O' NEILL CALLED OTTAWA "A FOREIGN POWER".
HE SAID THAT QUEBECOIS WOULD NOT ACCEPT THAT FOREIGN POWERS
DETERMINE POLICIES WHICH AFFECT EDUCATION, CULTURE AND DAILY
LIFE.

2. MINISTER SAID GOQ HAD MODEST HOPE OF SUCCESS IN COURT
CHALLENGE. HE DENIED QUEBEC IS HOPING FOR ANOTHER LEGAL
DEFEAT WHICH COULD BE USED AS AMMUNITION IN THE COMING REFER-
ENDUM DEBATE OVER INDEPENDENCE. HE CONCLUDED HOWEVER,
THAT EVERYTHING WHICH COULD HELP A HARMONIOUS TRANSFER OF POWER
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WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO EVERYONE.

3. COMMENT: QUEBEC WILL ASK SUPREME COURT TO CONSIDER CULTURAL
AS WELL AS STRICTLY TECHNOLOGICAL ISSUES OF THE CABLE DISPUTE.
A LOW LEVEL COMMUNICATIONS MINISTRY OFFICIAL TOLD US
PRIVATELY THAT GOQ WAS VERY DISSAPPOINTED THAT A QUEBEC
COURT HAD REFUSED TO CONSIDER CULTURAL ASPECTS OF CASE. HE

SAID MINISTRY HAS NO HOPE OF WINNING CHALLENGE IN OTTAWA.
DESPITE O'NEIL'S DISCLAIMER, IF SUPREME COURT DISMISSES CASE,
GOQ WILL HAVE EFFECTIVE ARGUMENT TO USE WITH QUEBEC POPULA-
TION THAT ITS CULTURAL PREROGATIVES WERE BEING OVERRIDDEN.
MCNAMARA

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LITIGATION, POLICIES, TELEVISION BROADCASTING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977QUEBEC00018
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770017-0384
Format: TEL
From: QUEBEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770145/aaaabnlg.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
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Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3580888
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Status: NATIVE
Subject: QUEBEC TO CARRY CABLE TELEVISION FIGHT TO SUPREME COURT
TAGS: ETEL, PINT, CA
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Type: TE
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